Anti-Slavery Office,
108 New York, 9 Sept., 1862.

Dear Garrison,

The report of the Ellenville Convention has come, and, to my great relief, contains not a word that I care to blot. The cloud I so much dreaded has burst without harm. The Convention would seem to have been wisely conducted; the resolutions & P.P. are such as you and I could have voted for, though no vote was taken on them. Pardon me for troubling you with my apprehensions which the event has not justified.

I have a proposition to submit to you. It has been ~~the~~ my earnest desire for twenty-five years to take you to my native town (Peacham, Vt.), and to give the people there an opportunity to hear from you an anti-slavery address. Few things could give me more satisfaction than that. What do you say? If I will go to Boston on some day in October to be agreed upon, will you join me in the expedition? It will be a day's journey by rail, & a ride of 7 or 8 miles by stage or private conveyance. I should make all the arrangements with my brother, who will be only too happy in having you under his roof. I would time the visit so as

to have you speak on Sunday afternoon or evening. Then I should want two or three days to take you to interesting places in the town, familiar to me in boyhood. I suppose you know where the place is. We leave the railroad at Barnet, and go back six miles ~~from~~ West of Connecticut river. Of course, the journey would be without expense to you. It is a beautiful region, and if you think you could enjoy the trip, I should be most happy to go with you. It will be difficult to leave home, but I think Theodore would consent to look after the Standard a fortnight for me; and perhaps the Committee, in view of the fact that

I have had no vacation for several years, would be willing to pay him something for it. Tell me what you think about it.

I was surprised yesterday, when Fannie came to the office. She will spend Thursday at our house, or rather I shall (and Mrs. Lavin also, probably,) go to the Central Park with her, and perhaps to some other places. I need not tell you how much pleasure I shall take in giving her such attention as she may need.

Mary Anne writes me that she is really gaining strength in Pennsylvania air. I hope she will return in a few weeks, well recruited for the winter.

I learn to-day, on unquestionable authority, that Hunter has not

been recalled from the Southern Department, but only got leave of absence for a time. The story that Mitchell was appointed to supersede him is wholly untrue. I learn, too, on the same authority, (but this must be private for the present) that Gen. Saxton, Military governor of South Carolina, has got written permission from the Secretary of War to organize and arm 50,000 blacks. This is a ray of light to relieve the thick darkness of this dreadful hour.

Yours, always and ever,

Oliver P. Morton.

* This is from a South Carolina man who told me that he, as Saxton's agent, had the order in his pocket.

A. J. - N.Y., Sept. 9, 1862.